

Wyoming County Commissioners Association

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Tom Wheeler Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: MB Docket No. 15-149

Dear Chairman Wheeler,

On behalf of the Wyoming County Commissioners Association (WCCA), an organization representing County Commissioners in all 23 of Wyoming's counties, I write today to offer comments in support of the merger of Charter Communications, Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks. As local governments in the least populated state in the nation, we understand the challenges of providing digital entertainment and broadband services in remote areas with few subscribers. Ensuring that the citizens of our counties are not left behind as technologies continue to advance is of critical importance to us.

Wyoming has long been home to Charter offices, including the call center located in Cheyenne that is a major employer in Laramie County and our state. The call center has been a reliable source of jobs for our residents. We are encouraged by New Charter's stated commitment to maintain existing jobs and to work diligently toward improving customer care.

In addition to the critical importance of economic development and economic diversity in a state like Wyoming, county government is keenly interested in the continued build-out of digital entertainment services and broadband capabilities to county residents. With a population density of only 5.8 persons per square mile, we recognize that serving Wyoming presents difficult challenges for telecommunications providers, cable and otherwise. The state's population centers have digital entertainment and broadband options, but county residents – the bulk of whom live within just one or two miles of the cities and towns – often struggle to receive reliable services. We are hopeful that a merger of Charter, Time Warner and Bright House will provide the economies of scale necessary to invest in low population areas within the new service territory. We are confident that New Charter will remain an active partner in our communities.

For this reason we support the proposed merger, and urge the Federal Communications Commission's timely approval.

Sincerely,

Pete Obermueller Executive Director

Wyoming County Commissioners Association